

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method to enable the secure transfer of information between nodes in a workgroup over a public network by facilitating the creation of a virtual private network (VPN). The system preferably includes at least a pair of nodes and a VPN server. The system preferably is centrally managed such that when an attribute relating to a node or server is revised, the configuration information related to that attributed is updated at each node within the VPN. The system further preferably includes a datastore linked to the server and a client application located at each node.